

## Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

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R 300750Z JUL 75

FM AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST

TO USIA WASHDC

INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 3870

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SCUL, RO

SUBJECT: RUG AND TAPESTRY EXHIBIT PROPOSAL

REF: USIA 17680

1. POST IS MOST APPRECIATIVE OF AGENCY BACKSTOPPING FOR PROPOSED EXHIBIT. AS WE KNOW FROM EXPERIENCE WITH ROMANIAN CONTEMPORARY PAINTING EXHIBIT IN 1973, THIS BACKSTOPPING ACCRUES POLITICAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE INSURANCE FOR OUR EXHIBIT PROGRAMS HERE.

2. EMBOFF DISCUSSED SUBSTANCE OF CABLE WITH VASILE ILEASA, DIRECTOR FOR INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS, COUNCIL FOR SOCIALIST CULTURE AND EDUCATION WHO EXPRESSED PARTICULAR SATISFACTION RE CHICAGO MUSEUM OF SCIENCE AND INDUSTRY INTEREST IN EXHIBIT. PLS ADVISE IF NOV 2 TO DEC 3 SHOWING IS FIRM AND WHETHER ROMANIAN EMBASSY CONCURS.

3. COUNCIL ALSO INTERESTED IN DETAILS OF DETROIT AND CLEVELAND SHOWINGS AND HAVE REQUESTED THAT EXHIBIT OPEN AT WESTERN RESERVE HISTORICAL SOCIETY IN EARLY OCTOBER. PLS ADVISE IF POSSIBLE. EXHIBIT WOULD BE SHIPPED FROM BUCHAREST IN MID-SEPTEMBER BY TAROM AIRLINES TO NEW YORK. COUNCIL WOULD LIKE TO TRY FOR CLEVELAND IN OCTOBER FOLLOWED BY CHICAGO IN NOVEMBER AND THEN OTHER SITES FOR DECEMBER AND AFTERWARD.

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4. COUNCIL AGREES THAT EXHIBIT MAY BE PLACED AT UNIVERSITIES

SUCH AS WAS DONE WITH CONTEMPORARY PAINTING IN 1973 AT UNIV. OF CHICAGO AND PAINE CENTER NEAR UNIV. OF WISCONSIN, OSHKOSH. AS FOR "LESS ESTABLISHED" SITES MENTIONED REFTEL, WE SHOULD RECALL THAT 1973 EXHIBIT WAS PRESENTED IN RAHR CIVIC CENTER IN MONITOWOC AND AKRON INSTITUTE OF ART. ACCORDINGLY, MINNESOTA MUSEUM OF ART WOULD ALSO BE VERY ACCEPTABLE TO COUNCIL IF ROMANIAN EMBASSY APPROVES. MINNESOTA DIRECTOR MALCOLM LEIN AND STAFF PROVIDED SUPERB SUPPORT FOR THE 1973 EXHIBIT WHICH WAS PLACED THERE.

5. REGARDING TWO INSTEAD OF FOUR WEEK SHOWING PERIODS, COUNCIL GAVE QUALIFIED YES. COUNCIL WOULD ACCEPT BRIEFER SHOWINGS IF (A) PROMINENT SITE IS INVOLVED (E.G., NEW YORK OR WASHINGTON) AND (B) AS LONG AS THESE DO NOT COUNT AS ONE OF THE FOUR MAJOR SHOWINGS. IN THIS CONNECTION, WE TRUST WE CAN REMAIN FLEXIBLE ON THE NUMBER AND LENGTH OF SHOWINGS IN VIEW OF THE INFREQUENCY OF ROMANIAN EXHIBITIONS.

6. RE LOS ANGELES SHOWING, EMBASSY WOULD PUT DAMPER ON SUCH DISTANT SITES IN VIEW OF ADDITIONAL LOGISTICAL PROBLEMS AND COSTS WHICH COULD INCLUDE TRAVEL BY AGENCY OFFICER FOR SITE SURVEY AND MAYBE EVEN ANOTHER TRIP FOR THE INAUGURATION, EXPENDITURES WE FEEL ARE UNNECESSARY. SUBJECT OF AGENCY CONTROL OFFICER FOR VISIT WAS NOT DISCUSSED IN ANY DETAIL WITH ILEASA. WE ASSUME THAT AGENCY OFFICER AND ROMANIAN EMBASSY OFFICER COULD COORDINATE DETAILS SHOWINGS ALONG LINES DONE FOR 1973 EXHIBIT.

7. COUNCIL REMAINS VITALLY INTERESTED IN NEW YORK AND WASHINGTON SHOWINGS AND WE BELIEVE WOULD IN BOTH CASES ACCEPT A "LESS THAN WELL-ESTABLISHED SITE" IN THESE CITIES. ROMANIAN EMBASSY ACCEPTANCES OF THE SITES WILL, IN THE END, BE THE DECIDING FACTOR FOR THE COUNCIL AND WE ASSUME THAT MITRAN AND PLOSCARU CAN BE CONVINCED.

8. REGARDING ADDITIONAL SITES, POST RECOMMENDS AGENCY CONTACT TOM FREUDENHEIM AT BALTIMORE MUSEUM OF ART WHO EXPRESSED INTEREST IN ROMANIAN FOLK ARTS IN LETTER TO THE AMBASSADOR LAST FEBRUARY. POST IS AWARE OF FREUDENHEIM'S PREVIOUS CONTACTS WITH TED ARTHUR AND WOULD APPRECIATE A READING OF THE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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FORMER'S REACTION TO POSSIBLE SHOWING.

9. COUNCIL PLACED SPECIAL STRESS ON HOPE THE RUG/TAPESTRY EXHIBIT CAN BE INCLUDED IN THE CONTEXT OF THE AMERICAN BICENTENNIAL AS AN EXAMPLE OF NON-AMERICAN FOLK ART WHICH CONTRIBUTED TO THE DEVELOPMENT OF OUR OWN.

10. WISH TO REITERATE OUR PLEASURE WITH AGENCY RESPONSE AND

BACKSTOPPING THIS EXHIBIT. FYI: COUNCIL HAS SUBMITTED TO  
EMBASSY A LETTER REPORTING TRANSPORT COSTS FOR PHOTO USA  
WERE \$11,917.92. WE ARE REQUESTING INVOICE TO SUBMIT TO  
AGENCY TO IMPLEMENT "REIMBURSEMENT FORMULA". IN PLANNING  
ITINERARY WITH ROMANIAN EMBASSY, AGENCY SHOULD BEAR IN  
MIND THIS IS TOTAL AMOUNT OF HARD CURRENCY LIKELY TO BE  
AVAILABLE FOR TRANSPORTING EXHIBIT.  
BARNES

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